



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office A
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,593	08/15/2001	Charles Boone	23572-501	1658

30623 7590 12/16/2002

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY
AND POPEO, P.C.
ONE FINANCIAL CENTER
BOSTON, MA 02111

EXAMINER

SULLIVAN, DANIEL M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1636

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2002

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/930,593

Applicant(s)

BOONE, CHARLES

Examiner

Daniel M Sullivan

Art Unit

1636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-72 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-10, drawn to a high-density output array of multiple yeast strains, classified in class 435, subclass 255.1.
- II. Claims 4-6 and 11-16, drawn to an input array, classified in class 435, subclass 255.1.
- III. Claim 17, drawn to a method of generating a high density output array comprising: generating multiple starting yeast strains, each carrying a starting genetic alteration; mating two starting yeast strains; recovering diploid yeast strains; and arraying the diploid yeast strains, classified in class 435, subclass 255.1.
- IV. Claims 18-35, drawn to a method of generating a high density output array comprising: generating multiple yeast strains, each carrying a starting genetic alteration; mating two starting yeast strains; causing the mated strains to undergo sporulation; recovering multiple haploid yeast strains which carry the resulting genetic alteration; and arraying the genetically altered yeast strains on a high density output array, classified in class 435, subclass 255.1.
- V. Claims 36-57, drawn to a method for conducting synthetic lethal analysis of yeast colonies within a high-density output array of multiple yeast strains, classified in class 435, subclass 29.

Art Unit: 1636

- VI. Claims 58-72, drawn to a method for conducting small molecule screening of yeast colonies within a high density input array, classified in class 435, subclass 29.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions II and I are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product (MPEP § 806.04(b), 3rd paragraph), and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.04(h)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful to make the high density input array for small molecule screening according to Group VI and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct since there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions anticipated by the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Inventions III and IV are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the method of making a haploid array according to Invention IV (i.e.

Art Unit: 1636

combination) does not require that the diploid intermediate be arrayed according to the method of Group III (i.e. subcombination). The subcombination has separate utility such as to create a high-density diploid output array for conducting synthetic lethal analysis of yeast colonies.

Invention I is related to Inventions III and IV as product and method of making. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product encompassed by Invention I can be made by either of the processes of Inventions III and IV, which, as demonstrated above, are materially different.

Invention II is related to Inventions III and IV as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product can be used in either of the processes of Inventions III and IV, which, as demonstrated above, are materially different.

Inventions I, III and V are related as product, process of making and process of use. Where all three categories of invention are included, restriction three ways is proper if the process of making is distinct from the product (MPEP § 806.05(i)) as is demonstrated above for the product (i.e. Group I) and process of making (i.e. Group III) in the instant Application.

Inventions I, IV and V are related as product, process of making and process of use. Where all three categories of invention are included, restriction three ways is proper if the

Art Unit: 1636

process of making is distinct from the product (MPEP § 806.05(i)) as is demonstrated above for the product (i.e. Group I) and process of making (i.e. Group IV) in the instant Application.

Inventions III and IV are related to Invention VI insofar as they are each methods of using Invention II. However, Inventions are distinct if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions III and IV are methods of using Invention II to make high-density output arrays while Invention VI is a method of using Invention II to screen small molecules. The inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together in a single process and obviously have different modes of operation, functions and effects, as Inventions III and IV are methods of making arrays and Invention VI is a method of screening molecules.

Inventions II and VI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be used in each of the materially different processes of Inventions III and IV as well as in the process of Invention VI.

Inventions I and VI are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case Invention I is directed to a product that is not used in the method of Invention VI.

Art Unit: 1636

Inventions II and V are also unrelated. In the instant case, although the product of Invention II can be used to make the product used in invention V, the product of Invention II, itself, is not used in the method of Invention V.

Inventions V and VI are also unrelated. The inventions are materially different methods of using the materially different products of Inventions I and II (therefore having different modes of operation, function and effect) which are not disclosed as capable of use together.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, or because each of the distinct Inventions comprise distinct elements and therefore cannot be searched coextensively, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Claims 4-6 embrace the Inventions of Groups I and II. Should one of these Groups be elected, the claims will be examined only to the extent that they encompass the elected subject matter.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

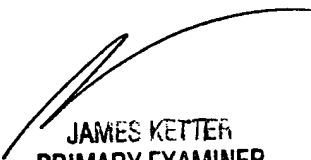
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel M Sullivan whose telephone number is 703-305-4448. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8-4:30.

Art Unit: 1636

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Irem Yucel can be reached on 703-305-1998. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-9105 for regular communications and 703-746-9105 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

dms
December 1, 2002



**JAMES KETTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER**